

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Based on agreements reached with the Examiner during telephone interviews conducted on December 12, 2006 and December 13, 2006, claims 1 and 18 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention. More specifically, during the interviews, the Examiner agreed that none of the prior art relied upon to reject the claims teaches a support platform having first and second plurality of spaced support members, with the second plurality of spaced support members being configured different from the first plurality of spaced support members and with the second plurality of spaced support members extending from a rear rod to a front rod through a bent portion to define a food item access zone. Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to more particularly define this patentably distinct feature. In addition, the Examiner recognized that none of the prior art teaches a second plurality of spaced support members, which are configured different from the first plurality of spaced support members and extend directly from a rear rod to the vertically offset portion. Accordingly, claim 18 has been amended to more particularly set forth this patentably distinct feature. Finally, as also discussed with the Examiner, claims 1 and 18 have been amended to delete the language concerning the frame portion being continuous and integrally formed as no patentable weight was given to this language. In any case, each of independent claims 1 and 18, as amended, cover the various embodiments of the invention disclosed in the application in a manner distinct from the known prior art as agreed upon with the Examiner.

Based on the amendments to the claims, the above remarks and the agreements reached with the Examiner, the Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention is patentably defined over the prior art of record, and requests allowance of all the claims and passage of the application to issue. If the Examiner should have any additional

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questions or concerns regarding this matter, he is cordially invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided below in order to further the prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Everett G. Diederiks, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

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